



JANET NAPOLITANO
GOVERNOR

STATE OF ARIZONA
Office of Homeland Security
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FRANK F. NAVARRETE
DIRECTOR

May 18, 2004

Thank you to all who have responded to my March 15, 2004 letter regarding Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for first responders in Arizona. The subsequent dialogue further emphasizes the importance of this matter and the urgency needed to fill shortfalls.

For clarification and to assist in your procurement of equipment, Arizona recognizes and endorses National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) standards for PPE recently adopted by the Federal Department of Homeland Security¹. I encourage your agencies to do the same. I understand these standards do not provide specifics for baseline equipment for first response disciplines. Knowing this, I am providing you with these standards. These minimum PPE requirements apply to Arizona law enforcement, fire service and emergency medical service.

Level C - Liquid Splash Resistant Ensemble:

- Air Purifying Respirator (APR) with canister (both CBRN approved)
NOTE: Corrective lenses or contact lenses may be used with APR if they do not interfere with the APR or protective clothing. Facial hair (beards) should not interfere with the APR or protective clothing.
- Suit: Tyvek F or CPF3 equivalent, chemical splash protective with integrated hood and boots.
- Over booties, Chemical Protective (disposable)
- Gloves, Butyl (outer)
- Gloves, Nitrile (inner)
- Chemical Resistant Tape

Arizona must protect all individuals who provide protection to the public. Our first responders may find themselves working in chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear environments – they must be prepared!

I maintain my position that federal grant dollars should be applied first and foremost to PPE procurement, maintenance and training on proper use. Where PPE needs exist and plans to remedy do not, the State will direct grant funds until gaps are filled. For

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agencies that find themselves chasing advancing technology, I recognize the need to build on legacy systems. Technology will always continue to advance equipment quality. All I ask of your agencies is that you have a plan for the future to move forward in an effort to provide the best protection for our responders. My office will support and facilitate this transition.

Individual exceptions to this guidance requested in writing will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Should you have questions or need additional information please contact my office at 602-542-7030 or homelandsecurity@az.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank F. Navarrete", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Frank F. Navarrete, Director
Office of Homeland Security

FFN/ac

cc: Heber Willis
Homeland Security Coordinating Council

ⁱ NFPA and NIOSH standards adopted by the Federal Department of Homeland Security and endorsed by the State of Arizona can be found at the following web page, www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=3301.